



State of Utah

Department of
Environmental Quality

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Executive Director

William J. Sinclair
Deputy Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

NEWS RELEASE

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Contacts:

Walt Baker, (801) 538-6047
Executive Secretary, Utah Water Quality Board
Donna Kemp Spangler, (801) 536-4484
Public Information Officer, DEQ

Utah Water Quality Board Reaches Settlement with Ritewood Egg Public has until September 29, 2006 to comment

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – Ritewood Egg, Inc., an egg production operation in northern Utah, has agreed to better manage its waste operations under a settlement agreement signed by the company on Aug. 16, 2006. The agreement is now open to public comment.

“We are pleased to have reached a proposed settlement. We believe it is fair and protects the interests of Utah citizens. We have appreciated Ritewood Egg’s cooperation in this matter,” said Walt Baker, Executive Secretary of the WQB and director of the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ).

The settlement is a result of a notice of violation the WQB issued to Ritewood Egg in May 2005, for discharging wastewater from a manure composting operation into the Cub River in March 2005.

Ritewood Egg, located in Lewiston, Cache County, operates a composting facility near Richmond, Utah, used to treat and store chicken manure. The facility is permitted under the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit. The state cited Ritewood Egg for various violations that included discharging wastewater without a permit under Utah’s Water Quality Act and failing to have a “Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan” (CNMP) as required under the CAFO permit.

Under the settlement agreement Ritewood Egg agreed to:

- Pay a \$105,000 penalty to the state;
- Develop a CNMP by November 1, 2006;
- Obtain a groundwater permit, if required, by March 1, 2007;
- Complete construction of adequate facilities to compost, treat and store manure from its operations by October 1, 2007; and
- Notify DWQ and provide a closure plan if Ritewood Egg discontinues use of its facility.

The settlement agreement is available for public review under “Public Notices” at: www.waterquality.utah.gov/. Written public comments can be submitted to: Walt Baker, Executive Secretary, Utah Water Quality Board, Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by e-mail at: wbaker@utah.gov. The deadline to receive comments is September 29, 2006. After considering public comment the WQB may execute the settlement agreement, revise it or abandon it.

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